

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 39, line 9 as follows:

Cells were characterized by the methods outlined in Example 1. For determination of Oct4-RT-PCR, the following primers were used:

Forward primer:

CGRGAAGCTGGAGAAGGAGAAGCTG (SEQ ID NO: 1)

Reverse primer:

CAAGGGCCGCAGCTTACACATGTTC (SEQ ID NO: 2)